

# Disabilities Advisory Council Minutes

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**Meeting:** Disabilities Advisory Council  
**Date:** 9/24/13  
**Start Time:** 2:00 P.M.  
**End Time:** 4:00 P.M.  
**Location:** Conference Room 1020C  
Multi-Agency State Office Building  
195 North 1950 West  
Salt Lake City, UT 84116  
**Type of Meeting:** Regular Monthly Meeting

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**Members:**

Peggy Augustine  
Deborah Bowman  
Kristen Chapman  
Marsha Colegrove  
Dustin Erikson  
Tonya Hales/Josip Abrenac  
Shane Sadler  
Paul Smith  
Krissie Summerhays  
Joseph Taggart  
Larry Valdez\*  
John Westling

\*(Participated by phone)

**Present:**

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**Absent:**

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**Motion to accept minutes:**

Tonya; seconded and unanimously approved

**General Announcements from Paul:**

- New Executive Director of DHS is Ann Williamson, from Louisiana
  - Starting at the beginning of November; with Palmer leaving mid-November; 2-3 weeks of transitioning.
  - Masters in Social Work
  - CEO of a non-profit association in Louisiana.
  - She is going to be a perfect fit and presents the right mix of what we need here.
- Signed a contract with the Utah Parent Center – to provide training for families who are selected to receive respite while on the waiting list
  - Big step into running that program
  - Deborah: Launch date?
  - Paul: Before the session starts – beginning of the next calendar year

- Division has started its new “Core-Training” for all support coordinators – began last week with make-up classes for day 2 and 3 in the near future in October and November.
  - Object is that every three years SCE’s must complete all three training requirements.
  - We will also offer other trainings throughout the year to help support coordinators.
  - Very good attendance, the majority of SCE’s attended all three days.
  - Brief Agenda:
    - Justin Naylor giving a perspective of persons receiving services
    - Eligibility
    - Person Centered Planning
    - Budgets
    - Interaction between DSPD and DOH
    - Contracts
    - Incident Reporting
    - Panel of various agencies talking about interaction
    - Employment
    - Protection of Private Information
  - We are very happy to get this training up and going and addressed.
  - Deb: Years ago, they had families come in and present at the Support Coordinator training; would you consider that?
    - Paul: We would love that.
- Success Model that is being endorsed by the Governor’s office – we have no updates on that yet. Have not had discussion with Office over what performance measures would be.
  - In the last Interim meeting, Kristen Cox presented on the success model.
  - Rep. Menlove asked that the legislative branch be very involved in any changes and input defining our success.
- Needs Assessment process and tool that the Division currently uses to establish where a person is on the wait list, we have received approval to start working with the University of Utah to begin making changes to that tool to make sure it is reliable and representative of the diverse population throughout the State of Utah.
  - It will be a big improvement to what we have now.
- Systems of Care Initiative:
  - Involves a bunch of DHS agencies aimed at coordinating services for people under 21 to work together and make sure they are well represented.
  - Looking to see what improvements can be made to our system.
  - Centered in the Executive Director’s Office, and being led by the Department of Human Services.
  - Dustin: Discussion about collaborating with Education?
    - Paul: There is some collaboration and they are involved, though not in the governance body. They are part of the larger stakeholder community.

- Dustin: We are having more and more school districts not wanting to provide services to children in out of home placements. So not everyone is getting the education they deserve. We are sensitive to the challenges that it presents.
  - Paul: There is also a group of youth represented on that governance council. They are very active and doing a great job of leading in the right direction.
- Coordinating Council For People with Disabilities:
  - The council had a training on public meetings earlier today– it is suggested that this council might benefit as well from that
  - One change is that we will be more specific in our Agenda item announcements

### **Tricia Jones-Parkin – Customized Employment**

- This is a more focused effort in terms of our Employment First Initiative that DSPD has invested in.
- October of last year we began Customized Employment:
  - Selected two providers:
    - Covenant and Rise
  - Expanded the training to additional providers – 35 people went through the program.
  - Handout: Curriculum basis behind the program
- Customized Employment is defined by the Federal Government: In Handout
  - Includes job carving, self-employment, and is very individual centered “one person at a time.”
- Keys to discovering an employment path:
  - Be in the home;
  - Find out the skills that a person has;
  - Discover interests since a young age;
  - Look at the strengths of the individual;
  - Information interviews with potential businesses – find out what potential connections there might be.
- Spotlighted some people who have gone through the program.
- Gave a basic overview of how the process and the project works.
  - What has worked well;
  - Challenges that they have faced.
- Training has been key to helping both participants and providers understand how to train and educate, but also learn to participate in skill building activities.
- Next year looking at working with folks who are in the transition program down at USDC.
- It’s been a great year of learning:
- Brian Winehart – Work Activities Center (Covenant)
  - It’s been a great experience
  - The systematic instruction tool helped a lot in deciding how to instruct people in what to do and what not to do.

- Customized employment has helped us to find different interests and skills that we never would have otherwise.
  - We find out what people like to do and what they can do, and then see if there is something they can do in the workforce.
- The program has also helped them build a network and engage people in a final job discovery.
- [Other woman] – Covenant:
  - The customized employment training has given them a chance to step back and re-evaluate what can be done differently to place people in employment.
  - Digital portfolio – one for each individual that is taken out to show employers why they were led to their type of business. This allows them to share with employers why there are interested in placing someone with their business.
  - Covenant has committed to making this their process for placing people in employment.
- It is more difficult to get to some of the other rural areas, but we are working on it.
- Deborah Questions:
  - How do you go about bringing people in from the waiting list:
    - The providers have identified folks on the waiting list, and they were selected that way, as a way to pilot this program.
  - How will that change going into this second year:
    - USDC will be the one site they bring in. Because USDC is so large, there will not be a second provider.
    - All the training will happen in the first few months of the program – which will help us to experience the process longer.
      - We have learned from our experiences this last year.
  - Is there a way that families can do this on their own?
    - Yes, we are working on that. It is happening at the national level.
- Peggy:
  - USDC – Are we looking at doing this with residents who are of a more general population in the future.
    - We are hopeful that we can do that.
- Kristen:
  - From the initial 35 that were trained, how did you find them?
    - Advertised to providers and trained those who responded.
    - We want more people to go through it.
    - We are really trying to expand it – through webinars, etc.
      - It just can't happen fast enough.
- Peggy:
  - We need to coordinate this with their schooling so they don't lose the skills they have gained through school.
- Kristen:
  - Where do you want to end up?

- Hope is that more and more providers will use this process to help persons get jobs and we get more buy in.
- Providers who have participated are surprised by how much people can do that they never thought about before.

**Jamie-Explaining BC2 and BC3 Master Level Degree Language:**

- Dustin – Motion that the council supports the descriptions as changed ....
  - Seconded by Peggy, unanimous vote in the affirmative with Tonya Hales abstaining.

**Division Human Rights Council:**

- Mimic what USDC uses – but expanded to get more people on the Human Rights Council.
- Idea is to review policies and procedures
- Send out an electronic copy for council members to make comments on: google doc.
- Suggestions:
  - State how Council members are selected;
  - Invitation for someone from the Health Department to be involved in the process – appreciate the invitation (Tonya).
- We are still addressing changes to the Behavior Rules, and some of those things will be cleared up in that other committee as well.

**Nate - Website:**

- Almost ready to launch; be prepared that it might not be running perfectly at the beginning
- Concerns about visually impaired addressed by Federal requirement
- Should be able to get to what you need in one to two clicks; large improvement.
- Provider information is purposely out of sight.
  - Is there a location to apply for Medicaid?
    - There could be.
  - Question about putting resources on website
    - Any help is helpful but have to be concerned about validity
  - Are the waivers on there?
    - No. They are currently outdated on the old website, but they will be updated on this website.

**Council Business:**

- Rescheduling the October meeting to: Oct. 29 from 2:00-4:00.
- No problem with the room.

**Companionship Exemption Rule – could have far-reaching effects on Self-Administered Service Models.**

- Standardize Labor Laws for everyone including SAS employees.
  - Problems most likely are in the areas of: overnight hours and overtime; and possibly the hours that people work (6) six instead of (8) eight.
  - Will be discussed on next month's agenda

**Future Agenda Items:**

Public Meeting Training

Companionship Services Rule

Discuss the “Needs” of folks coming off the waiting list for “respite only.”

6 months out – update on Customized Employment (how it’s going).

PCSP Group to put their final document on the website.

**Motion to Adjourn – Seconded and Adjourned.**